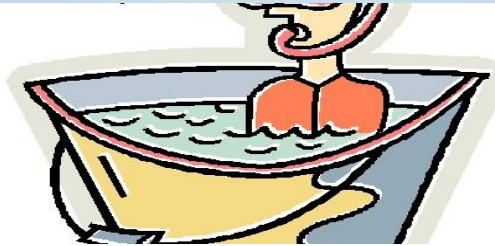


**Draining (Backwashing)
Your Swimming Pool &
Spa Guidelines**



**To protect and enhance the
health, safety and welfare of
Yuma County and its citizens.**



**Preparing to Discharge
Your Pool or Spa**

1. Decide which option you will use to discharge your water: directly to your landscaping, to a paved road or to the sewer. Salt water pools must be drained to the sanitary sewer only.
2. If discharging outdoors, dechlorinate your water by allowing the water to sit in the sun for one week without adding any chlorine. You may also use a chemical dechlorinating additive (available at local pool stores). Test your pool water before discharging to be sure the water is prepared as follows: Chlorine is below 1 part per million (1 milligram/ liter) , and pH is between 6.5 and 9 .Also that the color is clear and not discolored, free of other chemicals. And that the water is free of algae, floating materials or other debris.
3. If discharging to the sanitary sewer find the sewer cleanout or use an internal drain like a sink or a bathtub.

Option 1: Your Landscaping

Drain prepared water to your grass, trees and bushes on your property allowing it to soak into the ground, if and only if...

- Water does not flow on to a neighbor's property,
- Water does not cause any erosion and
- The environment is not harmed

Option 2: Sanitary Sewer

There are no limitations on chlorine content or PH levels for discharges to the sanitary sewer. You can also discharge to the sewer if the water is cloudy, discolored, or contains algae.

Using a hose, connect a siphon or pump with a capacity less than 15 gallons per minute to the access "cap" of the sewer . Run the pump during low-use hours, such as the afternoon or late night hours. Control the flow so the sewer line does not overflow.

Use of public manholes or cleanouts within the public streets is prohibited due to potential traffic and public safety concerns. Also, do not drain swimming pool or spa water to your septic system as it may cause system failure.

Option 3 : Paved Road with Curb, Stormdrain or Wash

Drain prepared water to the roadway that has a curb, Stormdrain , or into a wash, if and only if...

- Water does not flow on to a neighbor's property
- Water does not cause any erosion of the drainage channels or washes and
- Water is non-toxic to the environment

RESTRICTIONS

Do not drain the water if is acid wash or if the chlorine content is not below 1 part per million (1 milligram/liter)

Do not drain into unpaved or strip-paved roads and alleys, the water should not cause erosion

Pool or Spa water shall not be permanently connected to a storm drain, drainage channel or wash

- To protect our surface waters and the washes that carry run-off after a rain.
- A large volume of pool or spa water infused with chemicals suchas chlorine, bromine, algacides,water conditioners, and stabilizersare toxics to desert aquatic wildlife.
- Erosion of soil can cause loss of property as well as clogged storm drain pipelines.

Know the Law:

State law AAC Title 9,and ACC Title 18, Chapter 8 and Chapter 5 requires freshwater pool and spa water be de-chlorinated or de-brominated before released from the property. All pool drainage not being discharged to the sanitary sewer must be visually clear, colorless, and free of suspended, solids, floating material, and debris. Salt water pools should not be drained outdoors. The specific requirements are defined in the Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) De Minimis General Permit (Part 1.B.6.d).



Department of Development Services
2351 West 26th Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Phone: (928) 817-5000